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Date: May 31, 2006 /Christina M. Padamonsky/  
Christina M. Padamonsky

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Applicant(s): Cyrus E. Tabery *et al.*

Serial No: 09/955,517

Filing Date: September 18, 2001

Examiner: Ram N. Kackar

Art Unit: 1763

Title: *IN-SITU OR EX-SITU PROFILE MONITORING OF PHASE OPENINGS ON ALTERNATING PHASE SHIFTING MASKS BY SCATTEROMETRY*

**Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

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**REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED MAY 4, 2006**

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Dear Sir:

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application is respectfully requested in view of the following comments.